

69th Strongsville Homecoming has Rides, Food, and Fun

The 69th annual Homecoming, sponsored by the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce, gets underway on Wednesday, July 20 and continues through Saturday, July 23 on the city Commons, right in the heart of the community.

Following tradition, the festivities will be kicked off by the "Spirit of Strongsville" Homecoming parade, sponsored by Fifth Third Bank and the Strongsville Chamber of Commerce.

The parade will step off at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday from Progress Drive and Pearl and then proceed south toward the Commons. All parade vehicles and walkers will turn east on Westwood Drive, proceeding to the area around the Recreation Center. Parents will be able to meet children in that area following the parade.

A free concert featuring the popular show band Breakfast Club will begin at approximately 8:30 p.m. on the stage located at the southwest corner of the Commons.

A major improvement will be evident this year. The seating area for the entertainment will be covered with a huge tent. "Last summer we experienced three nights of rain. We've added this covered area to keep our audience dry and comfortable, rain or shine," commented Tom Burichin, Homecoming General Chairperson.

Another addition this year will be Northeast Ohio's Largest 50 - 50 Raffle. Tickets will be sold for the four days of Homecoming. The total will be split in a drawing to be held at 12:00 midnight on Saturday. Winner need not be present.



The Homecoming rides, games, and food booths will open at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday and remain open until midnight. Saturday's hours will be 12:00 noon until 12:00 midnight.

Another special feature for this year is Saturday Kids Day. From 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. the Commons will be filled with exciting activities for children.

On all four days the midway will be packed with rides, while some 1000 community volunteers from local businesses will staff tents with food, beverages, and games.

Ride prices will be \$17.00 for an all day pass, allowing visitors to ride from the time Homecoming opens until midnight each day. Individual ride tickets will also be available.

Parking is free.

Included as an insert to this edition of the Chamber Newsletter is a complete schedule for the four-day extravaganza. Check it out for the latest information on THE EVENT of the summer in Strongsville!



Save Money on Health Benefits Without Pinching Pennies

As a Chamber member with 2-50 employees, you can get a discount on any health plan from Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield – including industry-leading HSA's, HRA's, and HIA's. While your competition is busy cutting corners, you get preventive care programs, prescription drug coverage, and one-stop shopping for a complete benefits package. Just click on www.chambersaver.com/noacc to request a FREE quote online.

Or you can contact 1-800-551-3119 for more information.

- Big benefits for small business – NOACC and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield have teamed up to save you money on your group health insurance.
- Save money with member-only discounts – Chamber members who do not already have Anthem insurance are eligible for a discount on group health plans.
- The convenience of one stop shopping – Take advantage of the administrative convenience of one stop shopping for all of your health, prescription, dental, vision, life, disability, and employee assistance benefits.
- Get more for your money – Compare Anthem's Healthy Solutions to the competition. With anthem, your employees get comprehensive wellness and disease management programs, as well as online resources to help them make smart decisions about their care. They'll also get innovative tools to help them choose a hospital for their specific needs.

Save the penny pinching for the supply closet! Contact Anthem today!

Area leaders have a unique opportunity to gain world class business and leadership training locally on August 11 and 12. The

Summit is one of the most accessible and affordable opportunities for leadership development available anywhere. Strongsville Chamber member, Christ Church (located on Royalton Road at Marks Road), will be a premier satellite host site for the 2011 Global Leadership Summit, the Willow Creek Association's annual world-class leadership event broadcast from the Willow campus near Chicago.

Consider bringing your team of leaders from your organization to Christ Church for this event. The event is an excellent opportunity to develop leaders of all stripes. It features leadership training from experts recognized all over the world – the kind of transferable training that is as appropriate for business and non-profit leaders as it is for those in church leadership. A number of organizations have used this opportunity as a staff retreat or a team-building experience.

For more information and/or to register, visit willowcreek.com/summit. Strongsville Chamber members are eligible for a \$100 discount using discount code GLS2011BZ. Contact Christ Church if you have any questions: 440-236-8282, christchurchohio.org.



A Note from Mayor Perciak

Dear Chamber Trustees:

Thank you very much for your generous support of Strongsville's July 4th Fireworks Celebration!

The spirit of America is alive and well in our city as our friends and neighbors gather to enjoy the fireworks display made possible by generous contributions, such as yours. We continue to be proud to be home to many organizations and individuals who take an active and enthusiastic role in our community. You are what makes Strongsville a truly blessed place to live and work.

Again, thank you.

Mayor Thomas P. Perciak



Strongsville Chamber Awards 15 Scholarships

The Strongsville Chamber of Commerce is donating \$28,000 this year to 15 deserving students from Strongsville High School. The source of funds for these scholarships is the Holiday Dance sponsored by the Chamber on the first Friday of each December. This year's event is scheduled for Friday, December 2.

The Strongsville Chamber has donated scholarships for more than 40 years. For the past several years, the Chamber has contributed the highest number of scholarships, with the highest dollar value, of any local organization. "We're very proud of our

ability to be so generous and we thank all of you who have attended our dance over the years so that we can support our students in this way," commented Jim Mocho, Chamber president.

Because we are the Chamber of Commerce, we wish to reward and recognize students whose performance reflects the mission and values of our organization, namely those who plan to pursue a career in a business-related field and those who have established a record of service to the community.



Lauren Schoch will major in Business at The Ohio State University.
Zach Sedivy plans to attend Butler University to study Economics.
Radhika Takiar will major in pre-med at the University of Akron.
Alex Wedel will attend Indiana University to major in Marketing.
Karen Zhu will major in Finance at the University of Michigan.

Congratulations to all of these students and best wishes for continued success!

The 2011 scholarship recipients are:

- Jayanth Alangar** will study Biomedical Engineering at Cornell University.
- Joshua Baskey** will attend Johnson and Wales to study Food Service Management
- Brian Capuder** will study either pre-med or political science at Georgetown University.
- Natalie David** will attend the University of Chicago to study biophysics.
- Amy Donohoe** plans to major in Finance at The Ohio State University.
- Cody Fisher** will attend Cleveland State University to study Biological Sciences.
- Megan Jones** will attend The Ohio State University to study International Business.
- Michael Leonard** will major in Finance/Pre-Law at The Ohio State University.
- Megan Lunt** will attend Cuyahoga Community College to study Dental Hygiene.
- Anthony Morino** will attend John Carroll University to major in a business-related field.

Business Expo - 2011

In partnership with the Economic Development Committee and the Rotary Club of Strongsville, the Chamber will sponsor a Business Expo on **Thursday, October 27** at the Ehrnfelt Recreation and Senior Center. In 2010, the inaugural year for the Expo, more than 60 local businesses took advantage of the opportunities to meet potential new customers and to market their goods and services.

More information will be coming, but we wanted to get the date on your calendar as soon as possible. Stay tuned!!

Annual Golf Outting

The Chamber will hold its 43rd Annual Golf Outting on Monday, September 19 at Columbia Hills Country Club. The event is open to all Chamber members and their guests.

Once again this year Pete Baur Buick GMC dealership will sponsor a Hole-in-One Contest that will sharpen the competition for this year's outing. Thank you, Pete!!

Last year the Chamber sent out a participant survey for ideas to change this year's golf outing. The response suggested that we maintain our relationship with Columbia Hills, but make several changes to the format for the day that will make the event more fun and interesting.

Sign up online (www.strongsvillechamber.com/events) or call the office (440.238.3366) for more information. A separate registration form will be mailed in late July.

Partnership with Columbia Hills Country Club



For the third consecutive year, the Strongsville Chamber has entered into an agreement with Columbia Hills Country Club that permits Chamber members to use the facilities at the country club as part of their Chamber membership.

On a limited basis, Chamber members can use the golf, pool, and dining room facilities on a "pay as you go" plan. Members can use the dining room five times per year, and use the outstanding golf course and pool amenities twice a year.

"This is an exciting benefit for our members," commented Jim Mocho, Chamber president. "We are very grateful to Columbia Hills for this agreement which, we believe, is mutually beneficial."

For more information call the Chamber office at 440.238.3366 or Jim Wise at Columbia Hills at 440.236.5051.

Chamber Welcomes New Members

The following businesses and organizations have joined the Strongsville Chamber since our last newsletter:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Advance Auto Parts | Leff Electric |
| BJ's Wholesale Club | Matt's Cookin' LLC |
| Bruegger's Bagels | Mills Van Lines |
| Buehler's | Patch.com |
| C & D Truck & Equipment | Paul Davis Restoration |
| CapitalEnvironmental, Inc. | Pizzazz |
| Commercial Steel Treating Co. | Siata DS, Inc. |
| DK grafix | Stone Enterprises |
| Fast-teks On-site Computer Services | Summit Energy |
| Great Lakes Graphics | Summit Plumbing & Mechanical |
| Haley Enterprises, Inc. dba Bruno | Sundance Spa |
| Brother's North | The Bier Haus |
| ICNS | The Cute Little Cake Shop |
| KGC Computers | The Growth Coach |
| KZ Development Group, LLC | USA Mart |
| Le Chaperon Rouge | X Factor Media |

Business After Hours - Mark Your Calendar Now!



Many thanks to Bill Rini and Taste of Excellence Catering for sponsoring our summer Business After Hours:

Taste of Excellence Catering

16888 Pearl Road
Tuesday, August 23
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Open and free to all members of the Strongsville Chamber

Appetizers and beverage provided by
Bill Rini and TASTE of EXCELLENCE!

– Reservations by August 19 –

Call 440.238.3366 or e-mail to info@strongsvillechamber.com

Please plan now to join us for terrific networking and socializing with the Strongsville Chamber!

Come As You Are!

All events sponsored by the Chamber are "come as you are."

Some of our members seem reluctant to attend our luncheons, after hours programs, and other events because they are wearing their "work clothes" and may feel out of place when others are more formally dressed.

Please know that everything we do is designed to be helpful to all of our members, and we want to encourage everyone to feel welcome and be an active part of this vibrant and growing organization.

Come As You Are!

Fall Luncheon Schedule

In keeping with tradition, the Chamber luncheons are not being held during the summer months.

For your planning, we have set the dates for the luncheons for the remainder of this calendar year as follows:

- September 20 – Candidate's Luncheon, City Council and Strongsville Board of Education
- October 18
- November 15 – Joe Tait, legendary voice of the Cav's
- December 13 – Annual Holiday music featuring Strongsville High School students.

All luncheons begin with networking at 11:30 a.m., lunch at 12:00 noon, and program conclusion at about 1:15 p.m. We're always looking for suggestions for speakers or programs that would be interesting for our members. Call the office at 440.238.3366 if you have an idea for a luncheon program.